

ARTICLES

OF

INSTRUCTION *for* ENQUIRY,

Exhibited to the

Church-Wardens and Side-Men

Within the Jurisdiction of the

ARCH-DEACONRY

OF

SURRY.

LONDON:

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Canon CXIX.

Convenient time to be Assign'd for framing Presentments.

FO R the avoiding of such Inconveniencies as heretofore have happened by the hasty making of Bills of Presentments, upon the Days of the Visitation and Synods, it is ordered,, That always hereafter, every Chancellour, Arch-Deacon, Commissary, and Official, and every other Person having Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, at the ordinary time when the Church-Wardens are sworn, and the Arch-Bishop and Bishops, when he or they do summon their Visitation, shall deliver, or cause to be deliver'd to the Church-Wardens, Quest-Men, and Side-Men of every Parish, or to some of them, such Books of Articles, as they or any of them shall Require for the Year following, the said Church-Wardens, Quest-Men, and Side-Men, to Ground their Presentments upon, at such times as they are to Exhibit them, in which Book shall be contain'd the Form of the Oath, which must be taken immediately before every such Presentment, to the intent, that having beforehand time sufficient not only to Peruse and Consider what their said Oath shall be, but the Articles also whereupon they are to ground their Presentments, they may frame them at home both advisedly and truly, to the Discharge of their own Consciences, after they are sworn, as becometh honest and Godly Men.

The Tenour of the O A T H to be Administred to the Church-Wardens and Side-Men of every Parish.

YO U shall swear truly and faithfully to Execute the Office of a Church-Warden within your Parish, and according to the best of your Skill and Knowledge, present such things and Persons, as you know to be presentable by the Laws Ecclesiastical of this Realm. So help you God, and the Contents of this Book.

ARTICLES

OF

INSTRUCTION

FOR

ENQUIRY, &c.

TIT. I.

*Concerning Churches and Chappels, with
the Ornaments and Furniture there-
unto belonging.*

I S your Church or Chappel, with the Chancel, in good Repair, and Decently kept, as becomes the House of GOD ?

II. Is the Furniture of your Church or Chappel, as Bells, Communion-Plate and Cloaths, Ministers Surplice, Pulpit-Cloth, Hearse-Cloth, with other usual Ornaments duly Provided and look'd after ?

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III. Have

III. Have you a fair Bible, Book of Common-Prayer, Books of Homilies, and Canons, Register of Births, Burials, and Marriages, and is the said Register duly kept, and the Transcript return'd every Year into the Official's Registry? Have you also a Registry of such Strangers as are admitted to Preach, and a Book for the Entry of the Church-Wardens Accounts? And are the said Books carefully look'd to, and made use of?

IV. Is the Church-Yard sufficiently fenced and Preserv'd from *Annoyance, Encroachments, and Waste*?

TIT. II.

Concerning Ministers and Parishioners.

I. **D**Oes your Parson or Curate, constantly, reverently and regularly Officiate on the Lord's-Day, Holy-days and the *Eves* of them; as also Read the *Litany* upon all Wednesdays and Fridays Weekly; and observe *Rogation* and *Ember-Days* according to the Order of the Church; and so Perform all Offices, without Addition or Diminution.

II. Are

II. Are there in the Parish any Persons known or reputed to be *Jews*, *Hereticks*, *Papists* or *Schismaticks*, and are they studious to pervert the Orthodox, or Insolent towards them for doing their Duty?

III. If there be any Assemblies for Religious Worship in your Parish, besides the Parish-Church or Chappel; Have the Places of such Meetings been Certified according to the Statute? Do any upon that pretence, and who, wholly abstain on *Sundays* from coming to any Publick Place where there are Prayers or Sermons, but spend their time in Ale-Houses or Household-Affairs?

IV. Are any of your Parish known or suspected to be Guilty of Incest, Adultery, Fornication, or any other Enormous Crimes? Do any Profane the Lord's Day, or other great Holy-days, or the Name of God, or are irreverent in the Church, or neglect the respective Duties Incumbent on them in reference to the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and other Rites as of Catechizing, Confirmation, Marriage, Thanksgiving after Child-Birth, Burial of the Dead, or the Censures of the Church?

V. Are the Wills and Testaments of the Dead in your Parish, or the Administration of their Goods duly taken out and executed? Have any Lands, Legacies, or Charitable Gifts bestow'd on your Parish, or any other good uses, been embezzl'd, or unduly bestow'd? Has any Mony belonging to the Fabrick of
your

your Church or other Charitable purposes, been employ'd to other Uses?

TIT. III.

*Concerning Parish-Clerks and Sextons,
Schools, School-Masters, Physicians,
Chyrurgeons and Midwives.*

HA V E you belonging to your Church or Chappelry a sufficient Clerk, or Sexton, and doth he faithfully and diligently execute his Office?

II. Does any one within your Parish or Chappelry keep School without Licence from the Official; or if Licenced, neglect to Teach the Youth committed to him the Catechism of the Church, and to bring them to the Service of the Church?

III. Doth any within your Parish or Chappelry Practice Physick or Chyrurgery, or do the Office of a Midwife, without Approbation and Licence from the Official?

Advertisement

TH E Curate of every Church or Chappel may joyn in Presentment with the Church-Wardens and Side-Men, and if they fail to present, the Ministers themselves, who have the highest Obligation to endeavour the suppressing of Impiety and Disorder, may and ought to do it.

F I N I S.



